

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1874

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG YE MU

SUBJECT: PRES SADAT'S STOP IN OMAN

1. FONMIN ZAWAWI TOLD AMBASSADOR FEB 29 THAT CENTERPIECE OF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S 31/2 HOUR AFTERNOON VISIT FEB 26 WAS PRIVATE CHAT WITH SULTAN QABOOS IN WHICH SADAT COMMENTED ON EGYPTIAN/SAUDI EFFORT TO BRING PDRY BACK TOWARD MODERATE ARAB FOLD. ACCORDING ZAWAWI, SADAT EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THERE WOULD BE PARTIAL SUCCESS, THOUGH HE ADMITTED THE PACE IS MUCH SLOWER THAN EXPECTED. HE URGED QABOOS NOT TO ROCK THE BOAT BY RETALIATING FOR PDRY SHELLING OF OMANI TERRITORY OR OTHERWISE ESCALATING CONFLICT IN ANY WAY WHILE THIS EFFORT PROCEEDING.

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2. ZAWAWI SAID SULTAN HAD ASSURED SADAT OF OMANGOV'S

TULL BACKING IN HIS EFFORTS TOWARD JUST SETTLEMENT OF PALESTINE PROBLEM, AND OF ITS TRUST IN SADAT'S EXPERIENCED JUDGMENT ON ALL ASPECTS OF THAT ISSUE. ZAWAWI COMMENTED TO AMBASSADOR THAT THIS RELIANCE ON EGYPT AND SADAT IS "A MATTER OF CONVICTION" FOR OMAN.

3. SHORT JOINT DECLARATION ISSUED BY SADAT AND QABOOS AT END OF VISIT MAKES REFERENCE TO QABOOS' PLEDGE OF "COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR THE POLICY OF PRESIDENT SADAT WHICH IS AIMED AT ARRIVING AT JUST AND LASTING PEACE BASED ON WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS AND THE RESTORATION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, INCLUDING THEIR RIGHT TO DECIDE THEIR FATE AND RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY AND LAND." IT CALLS FOR EARLY "RECONVENING OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE" WITH "PARTICIPANTS OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS." (COMMENT: NO REFERENCE MADE TO PLO AS SUCH.) ON SOUTHERN ARABIAN SITUATION, THIS DECLARATION SAYS SITUATION BETWEEN OMAN AND PDRY WAS STUDIED AND THAT THE PARTICIPANTS "POINTED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT RESORTING TO FORCE OF ARMS, AND OF DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN FRIENDLY STATES DESIROUS OF PROTECTING THE ARAB INTERESTS AND STRENGTHENING ARABISM." A SEPARATE, UNILATERAL STATEMENT ISSUED AT SAME TIME BY OMANI FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME THING BUT ADDS A FAVORABLE REFERENCE TO "THE EFFORTS WHICH PRESIDENT SADAT HAS MADE" IN THIS REGARD.

5. SADAT APPEARED TIRED AND CAREWORN AT THE AIRPORT, AND WALKED WITH A NOTABLE STOOP. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR, WHO HAD SEEN SADAT ELSEWHERE A YEAR AGO, WAS AMAZED AT DETERIORATION IN HIS PHYSICAL APPEARANCE. BUT PRESIDENT'S SMILE WAS EVIDENT AND HIS HANDSHAKE FIRM.

6. COMMENT: THIS FIRST VISIT TO OMAN BY ANY EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF STATE WAS APPARENTLY A COMPLETE SUCCESS. WOLLE

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